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MICHAEL PHELAN'S WIDOW

BY CHARLES T. HARVEY.

The summer of 1853 witnessed the on the other side.

the St. Mary's river (which with over sixteen feet of descent within one lineal mile, compelled land carriage of persons and property around them), was nearly as remote from the outer world, as a settlement upon the shores of Hudson Bay would be at the present ime. Two pairs of horses hading as a set of the site of the emeral of the site of the emeral of the emeral of the emeral of the emeral of the occasion, the woman dropped an old style low "courtesy" her knees almost touching the glowing of the light in the eyes of that mother, as she dropped another protection of the emeral of t time. Two pairs of horses hauling cars upon a transway around the falls then sufficed to transfer all the commerce of "Sure, I am the widow of Mister and learning that the commerce of the co the Lake Superior region!

1852, made a grant of land to the State to the lands, to a corporation composed of Eastern State capitalists, who appointed the writer of this narative as their executive under the title of General Agent, to organize a force of workmen and enter upon the undertaking. His headquarters were first temporarily located at Detroit, as the nearest city, in direct communication, where he enlisted and accompanied a force of some five hundred men as the first detachment, and leaded one of the large lake steamers with them, and a due quota of supplies and provisions, tools, machinery, horses, lumber, etc., for transportation to the locality of the work, as the sparsely settled region about the falls, cou'd not be relied upon for such recourses to any appreci-

A commiserat was organized on the passage, and as soon as the lauding was nade horses were hitched up into teams, the lumber hauled on to the canal reservation, and in 48 hours the men were housed in improvised buildings and regular meals provided for them. The system adopte I was to assign 50

men to one house or "shanty, calculated to furnish eating and sleeping space in the main structure, while a wing furnished row for a bitchen and the principal complete the first success was due, nower, in the other success was due, nower, to her own shrewdness in slipping by all intermediaries, and stating her errand only where the final decision was to be made.

Time passed along two or more years. When I was a passenger between two of the ports on Lake Superior upon the then peerless steamer, North Star, with as stewards for that separate building. Each was numbered, and all were under the best return as to economy and efficiency were paid accordingly, while those who were wasteful or slovenly were weeded out. To this was added later a hospital and infirmary annex where workmen meeting with accidents or having serious sickness, were sent to receive attention from salaried physicians and trained nurses, free of charge, as the result of a small monthly per capita payment from those earning

so efficient that the cholera epidemic which swept over the country in '54 and stopped every other public work of magnitude, while showing its presence also at the "Sault" did not cause a panic, nor suspend the work for a single day. ized into working gangs of 30 each under selected foremen, and formed in ranks, while the General Agent breaking ground by loading the first barrow with excavated material and wheeling it out was received with a cheer by the men, and generally followed, to continue for nearly two years, up to the time when the men were again gathered in a group to see the same individual, on the 20th of April, 1855, open the sluice gate to the outer coffer dam on the Lake Super-

The building of what was at that time the greatest canal in the world, so far as commercial importance or lock dimenpossible by employing all the men that could work to advantage, and as a mat-ter of fact the force was rapidly increased after the first 500 were fairly at work, until between two and three thousand were busily employed and the line of the work seemed to swarm like a beehive. The number of boarding buildincreased correspondingly until between forty and fifty were under the supervision of the corporate management. Thus far by way of introduction to the tale indicated by the caption, and to the subsequent use of the first personal pronoun therein, by the writer, It was in a sultry afternoon in the month of August, 1853, that I was sit-

ting writing in my private inner room on the first floor of the construction company's general office building, improvised near the banks of the St. Mary's ver Ship Canal, at the "Soo" (as that point was generally designated). The entrance was at my back, and as a clerk was usually in the outer office to announce visitors beforehand, I supposed myself to be alone, and was absorbed with my desk work. The sensation that some one was breathing behind me led me to wheel in my revolving chair, and no doubt to look as I felt, greatly sur prised to find four unannounced indiridua's near me who had apparently been standing for some time with bated breath waiting on my movements to secure attention, which their entrance

had not before arrested. The group was composed of a woman and three girls, all neatly dressed, with faces endowed with a glow of health, ruddy as roses, combined with respect that time, in that locality.

The eldest girl was about twelve, the next about eight, and the youngest probably four years of age, the mother, evidently such from family resemblance was apparently of some thirty years old undersized, and not especially noticeable except for her head gear, which was a wonder to behold. I had seen pictures of such as baving adorned high dames of the Queen Anne period, most of the beauties of a den into the trimming of a high crowned hat, but now I saw a specimen upon a living model, making an appearance in describably grotesque. My eyes were describably grotesque. My eyes were describably grotesque. My eyes were deciding how to act. They followed the

*"The statement that the traffic through the Sault Ste. Marie Canal for September exhaulters of the Suez Canal by 30,000 tons would probably be challenged by those not ments, coming across the stormy Atments, coming across the stormy Atments, coming across the stormy Atmiliar with the immense development of ments, coming across the stormy Atmiliar with the immense development of the Suez Canal by 30,000 tons affection in local and personal attachments at the movements of the "bonanza" family or any of its members attracts the attention of society and of the present press of both continents at the present . "The statement that the traffic through the lake shipping interest, but statistics furnished by Gen. O. M. Poe prove this to be a fact. In addition to this, the past month records a larger business through the canal than heretofore known in its history. To those interested in the improvement of the great water ways it must be a reminder that the lockage system now in use in the canal is rapidly becoming inadequate to accommodate the marvelous trade of Lake Superior The passages through the canal in September were as follows: Steamboats, 574; sail ves-809; rafts and unregistered craft, 29 The aggregate of registered tonnage was 531,689 and freight tonnage 553,811, all of which was passed through the new locks, 505 out of the 720 hours of the month being oc-

The summer of 1853 witnessed the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of building the ship canal which was to open up the waters of the greatest of lakes to the commencement of the work of the work of the work of the canal was of the commencement of the work of the

that."

The general steward was summoned lookers would think that she was pleading with me, rather than with Heaven, he Lake Superior region!

Michael Phelan; but perhaps, sorr, you stewarding families was just leaving, and the explained that she was the owner of their successors not as yet installed, and the corner lot on the opposite side of

> to these little girls, peace to his memory." Just there and then a genuine partitioned off for him forthwith, and tear of affection glistened in the widow's the widow be at once installed in the eye, and she proceeded, "and he started family apartments, as solely for her own and I had to come along without him. were directly installed in their new We landed in Quebec and thence came to quarters. Montreal, where I tred to make a living by keeping boarders, but did not succeed as well as I could wish, and when I inquiry how a widow who only landed

boarding houses." is the main element to keep order. You.

without delay."

and attend to providing food and clean berths for fifty men, is simply impossi-ble. Even if you were willing to under-take it, I would not consent to have

hinder me, as you will see if you only But I shook my head more and more

force, a bright thought lit up her face; and she made motions to bring forth something stowed away in the bosom of her dress. Exclaiming: "If you had only known Mr. Phelau, and what a good character he had; and how high he was respected by the great men in his own country, you would not deny the widow's floated about the location, and even foremen called for transient meal tickets to try it, and envied were larged and colder places upon the unheated deck on that chill autumnal day.

Entering into conversation as to her leaving the West, she informed me that she saw signs of a decline in the land speculation which hal prevaile I (and which shortly afterward utterly collapsed and continued thus for a decade cry of his widow for houest work wherewith to feed herself and his children! Did ye ever hear of Lord John Russell, now in the government in the

ould counthry?" finished canal prism, doubtless never to be entirely excluded so long as the world day, but did he know your husband?"
"Ye may be sure of it," the widow exclaimed, "as I have a certificate from his lordship recommending Mr. Phelan on account of his good character, which I keep near me all the while that I may never lose it. Would you like to see

of such a noted man as Lord Russell, is well worth examining as a matter of cu-

In due time the widow drew forth her guarded treasure in the shape of a package having many wraps from which, when unfolded, dropped a sheet of letter paper with a printed heading, which she picked up and handed me as reverenty as one would hand a prayer-book to a worshiper in church. Glancing my eye over it, I found it to read substantially as follows:

..... County, Ireland, 1852.

You are hereby notified to vacate the earth-walled, thatched tenement now occupied by yourself and family near from date of receipt hereof, as it is to be torn down and removed by order of his

Agent for said Estates.

Dumb with amazement I glanced from the paper to the widow, but her honest, serious look of satisfaction in possessing this evidence of her hushad seen too much of the world not to against her, maintaining respect from speechless about that document; which have detected any counterfeiting of such faith as that, and I instantly divined that she could not read, and hence some one had imposed upon her as to

document through again and again with that he suitors once and for always, may be proven by recalling to mind that not describably grotesque. My eyes were drawn especially to one ornament which seemed to be intended to represent a seemed to be intended to represent a leaving her hovel in Ireland, it might be before dispossessing measures had been taken, but which, however had been taken, but which, however had been taken, but which, however had been taken, but which how how had been taken, but which how how how had been taken, but which how how how how had been taken, but which how how how how had been taken, but which how how how had been taken, but which how how had been taken how how how had been taken lantic, only to see it relentlessly requiring the sacrifice of her husband for entermination in the sacrification in tombment in its dark caverns, with only the dirge and requiem of its wild, deeptoned waves; pressing on to Quebec and Montreal, and thence a thousand miles tailed here, could hardly be over estior more to this remote place, and now mated.

only asking for opportunity for honest But the time arrived when the last night, William? and faithful employment at my hands; gang of workmen were finally paid off, how could I refuse at least a trial as a and a settlement of the widow's account dear. reward for such faith and perseverance? showed over \$600 to her credit. When Wife-Did it seem to be a successful Twas a moment described by the handing it to her, I said, "No doubt affair? Twas a moment described by the great dramatist, "When one touch of nature makes the whole world akin." I honse there?"

handing it to her, I said, "No doubt alian." Physician—"Oh, yes; while I was to Montreal and open a nice boarding there a young lady fell in a fainting condition, and I prescribed for her. cupied in passing it through "-N. Y. Times, beheld before me, not an igorant immi-house there?"

October 7th, 1885. grant, to be laughed at and thrust aside, "Oh, no," said she, "when this canal Here is her father's card.

root laying obliquely along the rim of ine endowed with a priceless faith, end of the lake, and I am going with it

more?

mercial marine of its sister lakes in the basin drained by the river St. Lawrence, and make possible the vast commerce are possible to the caprices of fickle "Dame Fashion" and believed tificate settles the matter; as the widow settlement of Superior City and was which has since been developed upon and through those mighty waters. Then the straggling village of "Sault Ste. Marie," situated near the base of the falls of the strange with a friend along its wooden sidewalks when I was startled by having the strange with promptness and decency."

tificate to its wrappings and place near "No. I would hardly be able to iden- that a very trusty single man was so far of Michigan in trust, wherewith to sa-cure the means for building a canal around those falls, that State sub-let the work of constructing it, for the right to the lands, to a corporation composed

> to come to America with us on a vessel bound to Quebec. But we had a stormy, long passage, during which he sickened and died, and despite all I could side my office door in the shape of a few say or do the Captain had his body bundles, which she and the children dropped overboard in the wide ocean, picked up, and, following the messenger,

> I must come to you or I will have come steward treated her more descrentially, in vain, and won't know what to do for from the evident indorsement which she little of her success was due, however,

"But," said I, "these children will require more or less of your time and attention, and for you to care for them action of a veteran, who thought of nothing but the business in hand.

It was a custom of the steward's department to let the men choose their quota in the second of respect for your sex in general, and for your welfare and that of these bright children in particular."

"Oh," said the widow, "these children cach was not exceeded, and they applied for a transfer order at his desk. Soon he was flooded with applications for change to the widow's heard or hinder me as you will see the second of the cost of cabin rates; she had pre-empted a space belong to the widow's heard to her. Her shrewdness was again each was not exceeded, and they applied for a transfer order at his desk. Soon he was flooded with applications for change to the widow's heard to her. Her shrewdness was again exclusions and will work and help, instead of the cost of cabin rates; she had pre-empted a space belong to the cost of cabin rates; she had pre-empted a space belong to the cost of cabin rates; she had pre-empted a space belong to the cost of cabin rates; she had pre-empted a space belong to the cost of cabin rates; she had pre-empted a space belong to the cost of cabin rates; she had pre-empted a space belong to her. house, and upon inquiry was informed that it was the most quiet and orderly of any, while the meals, in variety and barrier herself and daughters were decidedly, and as the widow saw the cooking, were what Delmonico's was to tide turning against her with increasing ordinary eating establishments.

the men who held vested rights as regu-

lar inmates there. The end of the month, with its tabulated statements, came round, when the figures indicated that the most economiconfirmed such conclusion, when her rate of payment rose to the head of the monthly income. She confidentially explained to the steward that the result was due largely to that famous hash, which, by being sweetened with maple sugar and flavored with spices, enabled poor immigrants ride. Now, as the her to use the last scrap of every kind of kind friend she has taught us to rememfood material on her premises without ber, will you not insist upon our having

cloying the men's appetites. She did not call for her monthly pay she must regularly draw her money, she complied, but only to bring it to me, to request me to personally care for it till she wanted it.

An amusing scene took place weekly. The widow was a regular Sunday at and how to get there?" was the next The widow was a regular Sunday attendant at the Missionary Church some query. distance away, and mending her way yourself and family near overshadowing centennial hat, only road, within thirty days equaled in tinge of red by her own cheeks and those of her three girls, walking demurely by her side. At a re-spectful distance behind her would follow a platoon of a score, more or less, of men, dressed in the height of canal fashions and all animated by an evident intention of not being far from her when the certificate I have of the good characinside the church, while the crowds outsi le the editice formed in ranks to let who will treat his widow well on his acher pass through, with special marks of count." Then the scene in my office consideration. Not a breath was heard came vividly to mind, and again I was

who had reported to the fifty brawny the widow's heart. ing her in any way. One day after the widow's reputation and ended my personal knowledge of the widow of Michael Phelan. But the There also stood the ruddy-cheeked had become quite established, she, with girls looking up into my face as to a superior being whose words could make in the same room as before, to confide veal her, later on, as a Melbourne real in me that she had been asked to marry estate millionaire, and her daughters Taking in the situation as a flash of by not a few of the men, and of them as among the aristocracy, riding in their light, my heart refused to let my lips be all, she thought most favorably of Patthew of undeceiving the widow rick Flinn, who had been selected as these issues may have hinged with as to the purport of her paper, and of care taker for her in the first instance, those narrated upon my keeping my faith in its talismanic but, after pondering well on the subject, face straight and my heart warm, when death risk on a detective is merey causing her faith in its talismanic powers to be dashed like a fragrant vase into a thousand pieces at my feet, never to be restored to its present symmetry to be restored to its present symmetry.

The charm feet warm, when she had almost said yes, the memory of her dear departed husband with his good character, so well certified to, his good character, so well ce

> many were the surmises where I had obtained the information upon which to circumstances too intricate to be de-

blood beet, boiled to a bright red, the as coming on a fool's errand; but a hero- is opened business must go to the other | THE the structure, while the stem, branching which could remove mountains, whose to a place they call Superior City and into many upright leaves, towered above the head, counter-balanced by a carrot or some other rank growth of millinery had done her best, and who could do risks and hardships involved were wasted, and before the canal was office

blessings upon the best friend she ever

the corner lot on the opposite side of the street, upon which she had erected was afraid that before she could don her best dress as she used to do at the "Soo," I would have passed out of sight. Patrick Flynn had followed her from the "Soo" and was installed as caretaker of her property, but she had not and would not prove forgetful of the memory of Michael Phelan, or less proud of the good character which he bore in the "ould counthry." Declining the request of the widow to

look over her title deeds and give my opinion upon their legality, on the score that the steamer on which I was making the round trip was just leaving, I heard that a great public work was commencing here, and before it was done a great deal of money would be paid out in the morning could get the coveted steward position before it was done a great deal of money would be paid out in the morning could get the widow in the midst of her corner lots.

Not long after this I read in a leading great deal of money would be paid out for boarding of the men, I determined cribed it to Lord John Russell's influ-

to come here, and by inquiry have found the way, but on arrival find that the com- know not, but I was very careful not to ing the right of Mrs. Michael Phelan, of pany employing the men boards them itself, and that, as you are the head man, document to any one, Even the general quarter section of land, her right to do so without naturalization papers having been stoutly contested, but on appeal, myself and these little ones. What I had received at the manager's office, not want is a chance to keep one of your boarding houses."

Indicate indorsement which she been stoney contested, our on appeal, her title to valuable property near the city had been sustained at the Interior

surely, as an unprotected woman, and the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of these nice girls, would not be described by the mother of the mother the charge of a general steward who had the care of the general supplies and kept accounts with each "shan-ty" showing the aggregate per diem number of men boarded in comparison number of men boarded in comparison with the quantity of provisions consulted the mother of these nice girls, would not wish to go into such quarters as that?"

"Oh," said she, "if you will give me a chance with my own countrymen, they will not harm me, or mine, I am sure, and you need not pay me wages till you see how well I can merit them, and I work attending to clearing their quarters, after having made the table ready wanted to have her take a couple of the best return as to economy and efficiency."

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"Oh," said she, "if you will give me a chance with my own countrymen, they will not harm me, or mine, I am sure, and you need not pay me wages till you work attending to clearing their quarters, after having made the table ready wanted to have her take a couple of the best return as to economy and efficiency."

"Oh," said she, "if you will give me a chance with my own countrymen, they will nearness was most commendable. The daughter of 12 years was doing an adult's share of the kitchen work; the "Indexd," said I, "and where is your mother!" "Oh," and where is your mother?" "Oh," said she, "indexd," said I, "and where is your mother?" "Oh," and where is your mother?" "Oh," and where is your mother? "Oh," which we will honestly eat of your hours in advance, while the little "tot" state rooms and let us travel in the stores, and that is what I need to do of 4 was seated on a barrel to bring her cabin like other people, for we can afto the right height to a table at which ford it, and I wish you would get "All right," said I, "we will see

what can be done." Then the widow was interviewed by surprise and without her conventional headdress on, but I presumed that it was in one of the severa partment to let the men choose their sizeable trunks, which evidently belonged fenced it off with her trunks and other ordinary eating establishments.

The requisitions for supplies for the

meal tickets to try it, and envied were which shortly afterward utterly collapsed and continued thus for a decade or more), and had, in anticipation of lower prices, sold out with a view of leaving that region permanently. "Well," said I, "how much money do cal and satisfactory results were from the widow's house. The second month widow was slow to divulge, and at last her eldest daughter spoke up and said "Mr. Harvey, to prove that we ought list, and continued there to the end of the work, netting her a very nice monthly income. bills to provide for all our traveling expenses for a long journey, and yet she will keep us on the main deck where

staterooms? "Oh, yes," said I; "that is reasonable until the cashier entered a complaint enough; but your mother has a mind of against her, that he could not close his her own, which she has certainly used monthly accounts according to rule.
Word from me to call at the office to good advantage since I have known her, and I have learned to deem it betbrought her there in Sunday attire, including her before described full dress ter than my own as to her own affairs."

"But now, Widow Phelan," I continued the control of hat. When the rale was explained that ued, "you will certainly consider that I

"To a place they call Australia," she replied. 'But do you know how far off it is,

that at a city called New York, where I "And sure," said the widow, "I have been informed that the governor of Australia is an intimate friend of Lord John Russell, and therefore a friend of my husband's, and one who will appreciate ter of Michael Phelan, as you did, and

I doubted not was then, as before, near The steamer's whistle announced landing at the port of my departure,

long after the date of those occurrences, a widow located at one of the mines in Colorado, who took in washing and mending from that her employer goes home every day her washtub has, during the '80's, married the Prince de * * * the scion and heir of the oldest and most aristocratic noble family attracts the attention of society and of the

A SUCCESSFUL AFFAIR, Wife (to her husband, a physician)-Did you stop at the Vancouver ball to-Physician-For a few minutes, my

UNREQUITED LOVE.

Of all the bitter feelings that are sent us from JESTS AND YARNS BY THE The bitterest of these is that of unrequited FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS. At first, the anguish that you feel is difficul And desperation fills your soul with thoughts of suicide. THE BARBER'S CONFESSION. Polite am I, but seldom let

A chance to cut a friend escape; And, though I am a man of peace. I oft am looking for a scrape. ONE KIND OF LOGIC. Pedagogue-If one diamond is worth get another girl. fifty dollars, how much are five dia PART OF THE BUSINESS COMPLETED.

Boy-Two hundred and fifty dollars. Pedagogue-Correct.
Thus we are taught in childhood many and he bent toward her tenderly, things that we have to unlearn in maturity .- Jewelers' Weekly. AN ATHLETIC ! CDE.

First M or the foll ath-Second Manikin-Don't say so, ol' First M .- Got to do it; doctah ordahs Second M.—Whatcher going in foh? First M.—I fawncy I will try rolling my own cigarettes. - America.

THE MARRIAGE IS OFF. Raker (to Miss Brown, who is aged thirty-seven, and as rich as she is not lovely)-Miss Eva, 1 love you, I adore you. Will you be mine.
Miss Eva (blushing)—Yes Raker-Oh, you dear old girl!

The reader who's in search of fame May think the way is dark; Yet the man who cannot sign his name Is the one who makes his mark. PLEASANT FOR THE POET. "There is one thing about my poem,"

said the poet, "the editor said it was "I think he must have meant that it was like a very wet snowball, rather slushy, eh ?" THREE THINGS LACKING.

Bagley—Don't you think that Miss
Barrows has a pretty face, Clara?
Clara—She would have but for three

His Majesty issued an order to his Bagley-What are they? Clara-A crooked nose, a homely mouth, and dull eyes. Miss Barrows'

ears are very pretty. - Harper's Bazar. NOT IMPOSSIBLE. "Speak French? Well, I guess I do, occupy the seat to his left, but as he Do you suppose I lived in Paris five was unwell the king's daughter took the ears for nothing?" seat. A crowd of natives were ranged "I didn't know. Judging from the around the walls of the house, while years for nothing?" way you live with your wife's father here women and girls were singing and dan-

I didn't know but what you did live in cing on the outside for the amusement Paris five years for nothing."-Bazar. WHAT JOHNNY WOULD SAY. "Now, Johnny," said the teacher, and sweet potatoes. "what Scriptural quotation would you

use if somebody should call Jimmy a were sent out to dig up some kava roots, fool? You remember, 'He that call-Johnny-Oh, I know. "The truth should not be spoken at all times.—Boson Transcript.

HAD FAITH IN THE HYMN BOOK. A story is told of an old clergyman who had the most unfounded faith in Watta bron to the was founded faith in Watta bron to the was founded faith in was founded faith in was founded faith in was founded faith in the beat to the was founded faith in the brone was founded faith in was founded faith in the brone was founded faith in was founded faith in was faith and the brone without finding an appropriate hymn. A mischievous son of his their mouth and into the ladle prethought it would be a good thing to test his father's faith. So he took an old of the book, over a hymn, so nicely that it could not be easily detected. At church one Sabbath morning the minisand commenced to read: "Old Grimes the stuff they had chewed between their is Dead." There was a sensation in the hands and wrung and squeezed the juice audience. He looked at the choir, and out of it, throwing the juice away.

he said: "Brethren, it is here in regular refuse would give offence, so each galorder in Watt's hymn book, and we will lant tar partook thereof with expressions sing it anyhow?' HOME CONVERSATION. John?" asked his wife. while to talk horse; horses are cheap readily. It has a most peculiar effect

Madeleine,—"Wasn't it hot at the Johnson's last night? Fred Johnson and waist down to his feet while his upper I had to go out on the piazza, the air story is not affected at all. got so close."

Marguerite (pleasantly)-"Didn't the heir get pretty close out there, too?" ACCIDENTAL. She had just returned from Switzer-

land, and was full of the spirit of that land of upheaval. "How terrible it must be to fall into crevasse!" remarked an interested listener. "Did anything of the kind occur while you were there!" "Not that I know of," was the naive reply. "But mamma had a slight at-tack of Roman fever, and fell into a very far distant when a vaccine matter

trance at Naples."-Time. A POINTED MORAL. "We should never complain, what-ever may befall us," said the minister. The moment we grow dissatisfied we become unhappy. "Do you really think so?" she sighed. "Yes," returned the good man; "the first woman who o inplates of her Lot was turned into a pillar of salt."—Life.

Jawkins (entering his friend's room suddenly)—Are you crazy, John ? Why on earth are you whirling that policeman's rattle? Hogg-Getting even with the new boarder next door! He's practicing on

a type-writer. -Judge. NOT A DANGEROUS OCCUPATION. Stranger (to life insurance agent)-I believe I will take out a policy in your Agent-Your business, please? Stranger—I am a detective.

Agent—The premium will be fifty per cent. less than the regular list. The

THE CHARM REGINS TO WORK. Edith - Do you think that Emily den .- Turf, Field and Farm. Thumpitt is going to make a success o her type-writing?
Maud-Should nt wonder. They say with a very thoughtful and absent; minded a r.

STRATEGY. Jack. Wait until next week. Jack Dorr-But why. suit with more favor.

AFRAID OF BURGLARS. under it for a man. - Puck. THOUGHT HE WOULD DO.

The Funeral Director-Well, sir? round in her place,

But calmer councils will prevail, and with a

stifled sigh ou suffer on in silence, or perhaps you vain drown the throbbings of your heart i dissipation's whirl; But those throbbings never cease until you

"Lulu," he said (he was a young man who had great confidence in himself). have loved you long and fondly. you name the day?" "Ob, the day is already named, Mr

Harris," answered the girl, blushing "George was so pertinecious, I finally cards will be out in a day or two."-Harper's Bazar.

SOUTH SEA CUSTOMS.

Sailors Feasted by Royalty-Drink ing Kava With the Natives

Even at this late period in the nine teenth century, when the people are supposed to know something of almost every habitable spot upon the globe, they continually meet with something new in the habits and customs of races living in some remote part of the world. Members of the crew of the ship John Bryce, which was wrecked in the Pacific some time ago, give a graphic account of the drinking of "kava" by the natives of the island upon which they landed after being in an open boat seven days. It was the island of Manus. There is only one white resident there-an Englishman, who has been on the island nearly

forty years. After the arrival of the ship-wrecked party, King Malatus, who reigns over the little island, gave them a banquet,

The king sat at the head with his chiefs on his right. Captain Murphy was to of the guests. The bill of fare consisted of ray fish, fish blood sauce, cocoanuts, cocoanut milk, fowls, roasted pig

"After the dinner two young girls and when they returned with the required quantity they were ushered into large basin partly filled with water. Each maiden was provided with a sort of ladle, which was fastened under the song and pasted it on one of the pages off and emptied into the basin. When

ter happened to open on that very page, this manner the girls proceeded to rub they looked at him; but such was his liquid in the basin was then stirred up, faith in Watt's hymns that he under- cocoanut shell cups were produced, and took it again, commencing with the same the decoction was handed to each of the ine. There was another sensation in guests, by the young ladies who had the audience. Looking at it again, and done the chewing. We were warned by then at the congregation and at the choir, the Englishman in an undertone that to and feelings akin to that of boy who was forced to swallow a dose of salts. It tasted and looked just like What makes you so late to-night, soapsuds, and another dose would cerohn?" asked his wife.
"I stopped at Tattersall's for a little tives are very fond of it and drink it upon the human system. Why don't you stay home and talk a ring of natives drinking kava, and aphorse? You know very well how anxious Cara is for a pony and phaeton."—New each man talking and eating in a pereach man talking and eating in a perfeetly rational manner; but let one of them attempt to rise and you will notice

"When we had finished our meal the native men and women sat down, the festival being continued until eleven o'clock. After eight days on the Island we were taken to Apia, Samoa, and there we shipped for home."-San Fran-

Preventing Plague by Innoculation.

cisco Chronicle.

The prediction is made by the Nebrasthat will not kill or stunt the young pig nor communicate to him an infectious disease, that is, a disease that he can communicate to other animals, and that will render the animal immune from swine plague as certainly as vaccination with the harmless kine pox will render a The Viceroy of China and Greatest human being immune from small-pox, seems tolgrably certain." The newspaper which gives utterance to these words has been closely watching the experiments of Dr. Billings with virus, and its confident words strengthen the conviction that an important discovery has been made in Nebraska. Dr. Billings has carried on his experiments in the face of hostile criticism, and his theory of the prevention of swine plague by innoculation has thus far stood the test much better than some people were led to expect. The earnest hope of Dr. Billings is to prepare a vaccine matter that will keep for cheap transportation from one section of the country to another. This discovery, says the Journa', will "belong to the State, and be no natent. The State can either supply the farmers with vaccine, or make pub lie the method of preparing it." As the people at large will profit by the discovery, the general government is very properly asked to bear a part of the bur-

Lincoln's First Speech. Judge Bell, of Mount Carmel, Ill.,

furnishes the following maiden speech

of Abraham Lincoln, delivered in Papps-Vera Wiley-I'm afraid it would be ville, near Springfield, Ill., nearly fifty lawyer, and had no intention of becoming a lawyer. He had then made up Vera Wiley-My milliner's bill will be his mind to learn the blacksmith's trade. suddenly nominated for the Legislature. | the outside world is con erned. If I had drains were defective. His first speech was as follows: "Gentlemen and Fellow-Citizens I presume Mrs. Uptown Flatte is so afraid of you all know who I am. I am humble burglars that she never lets down the Abraham Lincoln. I have been solicited folding bed at night without looking by many friends to become a candidate for the Legislature. My politics are short and sweet. I am in favor of a National bank; am in favor of the internal-improvement system and a high Mr. Tholp—My sister promised to pay the parlor organ for the choir, but timents and political principals. If she's taken ill, and I thought I'd come elected, I shall be thankful; if not it will be all the same."

CHILDREN'S PLAYTHINGS. Where Toys Come From -Interesting Talk With a Dealer.

"As with dolls, so it is with other toys," says a New York dealer. "The them come from Germany, where they are made very cheaply. This same town of Sonneburg furnishes | cular lounge between us. many of them, but more come from Nuremburg, and small towns in its vicin-ity. It is in this descript that magnetic hot Manchu, like the dynasty he serves, He is very tall for a Chinese, 5 feet 11, toys, swords, guns, trumpets, horns, I should guess, and must have been a wooly sheep, jumping-jacks, monkeys on sticks, jacks in the box, and ingenious mechanical toys are made. The in China—not flat, as they usually are, in China—not flat, as they usually are, close features, full eye and all a good

three chairs, a bureau, a table, a so'a, goggles. This may be his custom, as it and a mirror, carefully done up in a substantial pasteboard box. Now after having paid 35 per cent. duty and ing allowed 20 per cent. for freight and other expenses, we sell such furniture sets at 75 cents per dozen and make a sets at 75 cents per dozen and make a rendered him unable to speak for reasonable profit. You can figure out several days, and of which I can see

the original cost if you chos?. for painting. They are done up in the whole of our interview, while I have well-made mortised wooden boxes, with so slight a notion of what he really a painted picture on the top, and including 24 pigments and a brush. We recognize him in the street without his sell them for 60 cents a dozen and make a profit, after allowing the same percentage for duty and expenses as before. We have other boxes of paints, the cost of which is almost infinitessimal, possibly not more than 10 cents per gross. They are so cheap, indeed, that I can't name the cost price. I and only came out twice during our contained in the server and out the s know that we had to mark them up to versation, once when he wished to blow sell them at all.

of that sort—are also made very cheap-ly, the waste places in the potteries be-tle piece of news. Yet he smoked a ing filled up with their moulds without much additional cost. Toy horses, cows, elephants, cats, dogs, hens, tigers, at the back of the reception-room, and at the back of the reception-room, and His Majesty issued an order to his subjects to bring in the material for the dinner, which they did. It was served dinner, which they did. It was served these are ingenious novelties, being so these are ingenious novelties, being so the served dinner, the viceroy opened the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these are ingenious novelties, being so the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these are ingenious novelties, being so the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these are ingenious novelties, being so the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these are ingenious novelties, being so the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these are ingenious novelties, being so the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these are ingenious novelties, being so the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these are ingenious novelties, being so the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these are ingenious novelties, being so the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these are ingenious novelties, being so the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these are ingenious novelties, being so the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these are ingenious novelties, being so the server five minutes he walked solemnly forward, filled the pipe, blew the fire-these filled the pipe, blew the fire-these filled the pipe, blew the fire-these filled the pipe, blew the filled the pipe. in a large bamboo house at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, banana leaves being in the afternoon, banana leaves being heads and emit a noise resembling more inserted the stem and applied the light or less the natural cries of each animal. to the bowl, the great man absorbed The retail price of these toys runs from the smoke and o perfection. We sold a toy horse the other day for \$50 about the same time at least, and never a muscle did the that a real racer was disposed of at auction up town for a much less sum. Of the wooden toys, fully one-half are made in America. These include A B C

blocks, building blocks, and games, and are turned out easily by machinery. Iron toys are also made largely here, and so are tin toys. The tin for the when the toys are finished they are ex- ham, Ala , the object being to allow the ported for the European market. The passage of water from the Chawaba river majority of rubber toys come from to Birmingham. A few days ago the France, chiefly from Paris, although the workmen struck a cave. This was soon manufacture of this line of playthings is constantly increasing in America, and the American rubber toys are really the best to be had. The reason that America has not taken the lead in the manufacture of rubber toys is found in the fact that the demand for other rubber men found themselves in the center of a good is so great as to shat out toys. facture of rubber toys is found in the fact that the demand for other rubber goods is so great as to shut out toys. Toy watches are largely made in France, and are remarkably cheap. We sell watches with chains, charms, and movable hands for 33 cents per dozen, after having allowed for duty and freight.

"Of the standard games the best chessmen come from England; backs," improve one from England; backs, and move the few winding passages they came to the fact that the demand for other rubber men found themselves in the center of a large rockwall el room. The cave on large rockwall el room. The cave on the left of the tunnel remained unchanged, but the opening on the right had extended until it was about fifty feet in length and fifteen feet high. Some of the men started to explore the cave. After a few winding passages they came to a supplied the fact that the demand of the men started to explore the cave on the left of the tunnel remained unchanged, but the opening on the right had extended until it was about fifty feet in length and fifteen feet high.

after Christmas, a fact that makes us volcano, -Boston Transcript. direct our attention and energies to a preparation for the Spring trade in outdoor games. Novelties of all kinds sell best with us as they do in the European market, and toy dealers are always on the lookout for them. The French

probably lead in the invention of novelties, but the Germans are quick to imitate them in cheaper gools. Improvements are being made constantly and

"In all the European districts where toys are made the laborers are miserably poor, while the merchants are rich. But these laborers are so contented in have made toys for comparatively nothing, and they know of and care for nothing else. This fact, in my opinion,

time to come.' LI HUNG-CHANG.

Man in the Empire. The emperor of China, writes Frank can. Carpenter in one of his entertaining letters, is invisible to any barbarian eye, and if he were not, he is still but a boy and probably knows less about his counthan the least of his officials. The real Emperor is the Empress-his aunt -and her proud and determined personality is known to the outside world chiefly through Li Hung-chang. Between the Empress and the great Viceroy there is a close political partnership and offensive and defensive alliance. Therefore the presence of the Vicerov is the nearest possible approach for the foreigner to the throne of China. And all the world knows that he is one of the most interesting and powerful men in it. Viceroy of the province of Chihli, hence officio the guardian of the gate of China, senior of the four grand secretaof the heir apparent, president of the North sea trade, Court Shinu-ki of the first rank, special plenipotentiary times tan of cosmopolitan cities.—New York marked success. And the cadets and without number, practical owner of an Tribune. army of 75,000 men and a fleet which, so far as wood and iron go, is second to none in the East, immensely wealthy, reternaturally astute, utterly unscrupu lous, having at last overcome all his

open court, and turned abruptly into a her leisure. strongly built Chinaman, who put out by a saustery inspector.

his hand and smiled pleasantly, and grunted a solitary syllable. "The viceroy says he is very glad to see you," explained Mr. Lo, very much as a proud mother claborately interprets the in-articulate cackle of her first born. The Chinese manner—by bowing with his clasped hands at the height of his chin -and motioned us to be seated, myself

opposite him, Mr. Lo on a foreign cir-Li Chung-chang is a pure Chinaman, on stocks, meas in the day, and the inost strongly inotates usually are, in China—not flat, as they usually are, but with all the features distinctly markfrom the Havarian Highlands, but they ed, and the lines bread and deep—a face ed, and the lines bread and deep—a face are brought to Nuremburg to be sold. that would hold its own in comparison The cheaper grades of wooden toys come with any foreign fac. A thin gray

"How cheaply they make these things you can judge from this instance. Here is a toy set of furniture consisting of enormous pair of round tortoise-shell "Other toys are made with corresording cheapness. Here are outfits he looked me straight in the eye during recognize him in the street without his

glasses. The viceroy was dressed simply, not garment of some kind of yellow silk and an undergarment of gray silk. His "Porcelain toys—tea se's and things in a familiar but indescribable manner, his nose, which he did upon the carpet when the pipe-bear r withdrew as he viceroy move, except just to open the corner of his mouth wide enough to admit the pipe-stem.

They Tunneled Into an Old Volcano.

For two months workmen have been latter is imported from Europe, and tunneling Red mountain, near Birmingchessmen come from England; back-gammon and checkers are made almost altogether in America; bone dominoes, place a spring of clear water was found. lice and the cheaper grades of chess When first discovered, a stream was come from France; toy printing presses, flowing, but presently it ceased. After locomotives, and all that line of goods an hour or two it began again. At the are domestic. Toy printing presses beginning of these periodical spurts the were furnished formerly almost wholly water is very col !, but it gets warmer by the Germans, but latterly the Amer- and warmer, until toward the close it cans have superseded their Teutonic has attained the boiling point. It smells brethren in this industry. In educational toys America leads the world, and to the entrance of the pit and pushed in, exports large quantities. So it does but nobody heard them strike. An enalso in the manufacture of outdoor gineering expert, who has visited several games, lawn tennis, croquet, baseball, extinct craters, says the character of the rock and everything about the place in-"It is a peculiarity of the toy trade dicates that the tunnel has encountered that business always falls off greatly a section of the crater of a long extinct

Grinding Meal by Steam.

invented a new process for grinding meal by steam, that makes it equal to, if not better than water-ground meal, He was grinding away on a large order yesterday for a firm in the city, who the perfection attained in some toys is said that they could sell this meal and the perfection attained in some toys is remarkable. For instance, the winking and talking dolls of to-day are 100 per cent. better than those of a few years cent. better than those of a few years opped into a hopper and broken into grist, or hominy; it is then run up an elevator and the chaff or husk fanned out, dropped into a conveyor, thence been trained by stages on the road. into the mill, then upstairs in an eleva- | Few persons have any idea of the extheir poverty that they have no ambition to get out of it. For generations they have made toys for comparatively nothing, and they know of and care for cool. He claims that the cracking process takes off all friction and heat, and they know of the cool in the bin as fine as flour, and perfectly cool. He claims that the cracking process takes off all friction and heat, and they know of the whole the whole saves much of the nutriment of the course of the Thames, from the Nore to will prevent America from producing corn, which is burnt up by the heat Richmond, in one view. And I may regeneral toys on a large scale for a long created by the force necessary to crack mark that as the earth's surface on a and 'rind the corn at once. He says | dead level curves eight inches in a mile meal made by this process is sweeter, and as the curve increases as the square finer and goes further than the old process, and all who have used it prefer it late the range of vision from any altiabove all others. He makes the very best of meal, and it is fast gaining popular favor. Mr. Bell has applied

A Striking Diversity of Scene.

or a patent. - Americus (Ga.) Republi-

No thoroughfare in the country can offer such a diversity of scene in the handsome costumes of the women, the striking bearing of the men, the attractive display in shop and store windows as Broadway presents each afternoon between 2 and 5 o'clock. The changing past year a loft of birds on one of the naval vessels at Newport, R. I., to be panorama is a feast to the eye, and both the visitor from the country and the inveterate "globe-trotter" are affected to admiration and surprise in their different ways. Along this way, the fashions of the country are first displayed; and over its pavements the rich and the poor, the obscure and the great, the ediby leading fanciers throughout the tradesman, the author, the actor and the country, and are used to report weather woman of the world elbow each other as , conditions from the Bahama Islands. ries of state, formerly grand guardian they move with the throng. It is this The reports of success from this left are board of war, superintendent of the gay and ever changing procession which board of war, superintendent of the causes foreign visitors to declare that is also used to report shots in artillery New York is one of the most cosmopoli-

The Cat as a Sanitary Inspector.

According to the Hospital, it was a better not to speak to Papa just yet, years ago. Mr. Lincoln was not then a enemies and ever able to laugh calmly stroke of genius to find an occupaat the dreaded censors themselves, Li tion in life for the laziest exquisites Hung-chang may be fairly looked upon among the domestic animals. The hapas a ruler of these 350,000,000 of shaven py inspiration came to a gentleman, who in then, and he may look upon your His genius was recognized, and he was heads and plaited tails, at least so far as had reason to suspect that his house

a chief object in my journey around the He threw the entire establishment world, it was to interview Li Hung- open to the inspection of his cat, and then poured a strong infusion of valer-We followed the chamberlain, or ian into the pipes. Puss, who is fond whatever he was, for a couple of min- of perfume, soon discovered three leaks, ntes, across a yard, through several at each of which she established herself door-ways, around the veranda of an in turn, to enjoy the pungent oder at

room and around a large streen. "The Thus not only were the householder's viceroy, said Mr. Lo, with perfect suspicious confirmed, but the actual European manuers, as he stepped back situation of the leak was revealed as acand left me face to face with a tall and curate'y as if they had been in licated

WINGED MESSENGERS.

Their Faculty of Flying Long Dis-

HOMING PIGEONS, THEIR VALUE AND USEFULNESS

tances and Returning Home Safely-How They are Taught. The breeding and training of homing pigeons have increased to such an extent within a few years in this country that much attention has been directed to the ndustry, or perhaps pastime, by wealthy and intelligent people. And it is a pas-time that is fascinating and instructive.

Upon this point none disagree. "With regard to the faculty that these birds cossess of returning home from long d sances I believe more erroneous statements have been written," says an excellent authority, "than on any other subject connected with pigeons." The soulty has been attributed to some mysterious power or instinct the birds pos sess, but this is denied nowadays and it is claimed to be due solely to observation-in other words, to intelligence, The homing pigeon and his ways can be studied with profit, and their ability to

A homing pigeon must be distinguish ed from the carrier. The English carrier is bred simply for show purposes, and is tall, erect and stately, with heavy beak and eye wattle. The homer, on the contrary, is the result of many crosses with some carrier blood, and the brainy head. The color of the bird does not enter into the consideration. The great object of breeding these pets is to procure speed and endurance,

supposing, of course, that the homing quality is there to work upon. The

ove of home is the one great thing the

proeders rely on, and once in pease as generalized under the head of accidents, essen their number materially. Every fancier, who takes a thorough interest in the fascinating sport, has his loft of breeders whose progeny he can rely on under fair conditions. The breeding season commences about February 1. When the young are about five years old a seamless band is slipped over the foot, and in a few days the bird has grown so that it cannot be removed. These bands are issued by the national organization, the Federation of American Homing Pigeon Fanciers. The bands bear a number and also a letter hands were tucked into his wide sleeves the latter denoting the year of hatch and the figures the registered number of the bird. There are no two bands alike. A record is kept of all bands issued, so that should this or that fancier breed and band a bird, sell it as a youngster to some one-say, in Philalelphia, Boston or New York, for instance-train it and make a top record year, there were issued 15,514, which gives a good idea of the extent of the

sport. The old birds make good parents, seeming to care more for their young and nest box than anything else. It is not unusual to see a bird come in from a three-hundred-mile journey, go at once to its nest without taking food or water, and take a general look aroun t. Then if everything is satisfactory he will eat, which trait in the homer might, perhaps be studied with advantage by nembers of the human family. At home the birds are inclined to be puguacious, and will fight not only for their own nest but often claim others that don't belong to them, and when this occurs the rightful owner goes for the squatter "hammer and tongs," and victory is gen-

The old bird flying season commences in May and closes in July. Some fanciers start training early in April, but the birds of prey are still too an merous at that time to risk the productions of several years, training for such tions of several years' training for such an early start in the flying sport. The great point to be gained by breeders and fanciers seems to be to reach a 500 mile station about June 21. The days are then the longest, and your bird should cover the distance the day of liberation. This foat has been accom-plished by only nine birds in America. Young birds are started in training the later part of August, and are trained up to the two hundred mile station. If stopped then they make prime birds in the following spring. Some fanciers send their young birds 400 and 500 miles, but the strain is too much and too often absolutely ruins what might have been a prime old pigeon. Training is started by tossing the bird around home, always in the early morning, then sending it about five miles in all directions. Following the later, the course is laid out, and is usually from the Southwest, as the best results have been obtained from that point, beginning at ten miles, after which twenty, next forty, seventy-five, one hundred and thirty and finally 200 miles. Of training and the question of instinct and observation, Mr. W. G. Tegitmeier says in the Homing Exchange: "A bird thrown in a new locality flies round and round in gradually widening circles, until at length it descries some familiar ob ect, and then, and then only, darts off on its homeward flight. Throw the same bird again in the same locality, and if a good intelligent bird, there is no wheeling round, but the road being known, he is off instantly.

to say nothing of five hundred. In that I perfectly agree, but no bird will return home two hundred miles without he has of the distance, it is very easy to calentude. Thus, at the height of a little over four hundred feet, the extent of vision, even if the surface was a perfect level, as that of the sea, would be twenty-five miles on every side. But in every land view there are prominent objects that can be seen at much greater distances, and no one who has ever flown his pigeons but must have observed them looking on all sides, turning the head as they wheel round a l round, until they discern some familiar

There has been established during the used as message bearers from the shore. The most active interest, however, taken by the government in utilizing the intelligence of the homing pigeon, is shown at the loft in Key which is in charge of the signal officer stationed there. The birds were douatpractice at Fortress Monroe, and with lis, Md., are seriously thinking of establishing a loft there. - New York Her-

Boomerang-throwing in Australia.

The boomerang has actual, as well as a figurative existence, and the art of throwing it is still assiduously practiced in the aboriginal sections of Australia. Mr. Melton Prior, the English artist, writes from the interior of Victoria, as follows: "I chanced to be there in the evening, when the men, both young and old, were out practicing with boomer-angs and trying them, and I was much astonished by the extraordinary style in which, being thrown with great force, the boomerang would whirl through the air, looking like a hoop; then, after rising and falling and swooping about in the manner of a bird, it would return and fall at the thrower's feet.